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Our Bimonthly Newsletter includes websites from the Electronic Documentation Service, a mechanism for identifying and delivering authoritative but often hard-to-locate and soon-out-of-print reports by a number of different government agencies and private think tanks.

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DEMOCRACY

BOLIVIA'S CRISIS OF GOVERNANCE

Peter DeShazo and Phillip McLean

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). December 2005

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/ppa_v16_3.pdf

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

On December 2, 2005, the CSIS Americas Program held a conference to examine Bolivia's crisis of governance -- to analyze why it occurred and what steps can be taken to promote more effective and legitimate institutions of government. More broadly, the conference organizers sought to provide policymakers in a wide variety of fields with an analysis of the challenges involved in promoting effective governance in a multiethnic, developing country. The event featured panel discussions led by six experts from the academic, government, and media fields. This report summarizes the panelists' discussions and conclusions. As Bolivia's general elections occurred December 18, remarks by panelists referring to the elections were made without knowledge of the results.

CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT

Frederick M. Kaiser

Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service. January 3, 2006

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/97-936.pdf>

The author provides a primer on congressional oversight -- the review, monitoring, and supervision of federal agencies, programs, activities, and policy implementation. Congress exercises this power largely through its standing committee system. However, oversight, which dates to the earliest days of the U.S. Republic, also occurs in a wide variety of congressional activities and contexts. These include authorization, appropriations, investigative, and legislative hearings by standing committees; specialized investigations by select committees; and reviews and studies by congressional support agencies and staff.

POPULATION--UNITED STATES--HISTORICAL

U.S. Census

Working Paper No. 81, Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0081/twps0081.html>

[PDF version](#) also available

This working paper updates and supersedes Working Paper No. 29, "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 1990." The primary change to table content is the addition of data for 2000. The tables in the Internet version of the new working paper are in Excel and PDF whereas the tables in the previous working paper were in HTML only.

THE STATE OF THE NEWS MEDIA 2005

Project for Excellence in Journalism

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism

<http://www.stateofthemedias.org/2005/index.asp>

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

Funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, this report provides a comprehensive look at the state of American journalism, and the pressing issues facing the news media in 2005. The authors' goal is to put in one place as much original and aggregated data as possible about each of the major journalism sectors -- newspapers, magazines, network television, cable television, local television, the Internet, radio, ethnic and alternative media. For each of the media sectors, they examine six different areas - content, audience trends, economics, ownership, newsroom investment, and public attitudes.

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

2006 ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Council of Economic Advisors (via GAO Access)

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/eop/index.html>

The Economic Report of the President is an annual report written by the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors. It overviews the nation's economic progress using text and extensive data appendices. The Economic Report of the President is transmitted to Congress no later than ten days after the submission of the Budget of the United States Government. Supplementary reports can be issued to the Congress which contain additional and/or revised recommendations. Documents are available as ASCII text and PDF files.

2006 INDEX OF ECONOMIC FREEDOM

Marc A. Miles, Kim R. Holmes, and Mary Anastasia O'Grady, editors

Heritage Foundation; Wall Street Journal. Web-posted January 2006

<http://www.heritage.org/research/features/index/downloads.cfm>

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

This 12th edition of the Index documents the correlation between freedom and prosperity. Countries that improve their scores in 10 categories of economic freedom -- trade policy, fiscal burden of government, government intervention in the economy, monetary policy, capital flows and foreign investment, banking and finance, wages and prices, property rights, regulation and informal (or black) market activity -- tend to see their standards of living and per capita incomes rise.

A NEW ERA AT THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK: SIX RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NEW PRESIDENT

The Latin American Shadow Financial Regulatory Committee and The Center For Global Development. January 2006

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/5818>

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

In the authors' view, the selection of a new president, Luis Alberto Moreno, to lead the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) presents an opportunity for this institution to reassess its role and reshape its products and services to better address current challenges. They contend that the market for the IDB's services has changed dramatically as rapid growth in private capital flows has made IDB's financial resources less important. In addition, political leaders are increasingly articulating their own vision on how to bring about inclusive growth in Latin America and the Caribbean, thereby reducing their need for advice from Washington.

BANKS--ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

John M. Olin Law & Economics Working Paper (Dam; via The Brookings Institution)

Credit Markets, Creditors' Rights and Economic Development

<http://www.brookings.edu/views/papers/200602dam.pdf>

Credit markets are just as important as equity markets to financial development. And in most countries far more finance is generated in credit markets than in public equity markets. Even in the United States, which is usually thought the country with the most pronounced equity culture, far more money is raised in credit markets than in equity markets.

BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT--FISCAL YEAR 2007

OMB, White House

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2007>

Budget of the United States Government Fiscal Year 2007 contains the Budget Message of the President, information on the President's budget and management priorities, and budget overviews organized by agency.

CITIES--ECONOMICS--STATISTICS

EIU

http://store.eiu.com/index.asp?layout=pr_story&press_id=900001890&ref=pr_list

Highlights Only. After 14 years at the top Tokyo has been overtaken by Oslo as the world's costliest city in the latest findings from the Economist Intelligence Unit's Worldwide cost of living survey. Elsewhere an improving economic outlook has pushed Brazilian cities up the ranking and Asian cities make up many of the cheapest destinations.

CREDIT MARKETS, CREDITORS RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Kenneth W. Dam

The Brookings Institution. February 2006

<http://www.brookings.edu/views/papers/200602dam.pdf>

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

According to the author, a law professor and Brookings Institution fellow, credit markets are just as important as equity markets to financial development. In most countries, far more finance is generated in credit markets than in public equity markets. He notes that even in the United States, which is usually thought of as the country with the most pronounced equity culture, far more money is raised in credit markets than in equity markets.

ECONOMIC AMNESIA: THE CASE AGAINST OIL PRICE CONTROLS AND WINDFALL PROFIT TAXES

Jerry Taylor and Peter Van Doren

Cato Institute. January 12, 2006

<http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa561.pdf>

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

The authors, CATO Institute senior fellows, discuss the economic impact of oil price controls and windfall profit taxes, and dispute their effectiveness. The recent rise in U.S. gasoline prices, they write, has led many observers to call for government price controls and special taxes on oil companies. Yet policies that restrain prices result in less supply and conservation. Additional taxes reduce the incentive to invest in new supply. Moreover, because price controls and profit taxes can be levied only by the U.S. government on U.S.-based companies, such policies also increase the economic attractiveness of foreign, relative to domestic, oil. The U.S. experience with price controls from 1971 to 1980, and the Crude Oil Windfall Profit Tax from 1980 to 1988 demonstrates the problems.

ENERGY PRICES AND THE ECONOMY

Joint Economic Committee. United States Congress. January 2006

<http://www.house.gov/jec/publications/109/energy01-26-06.pdf>

This paper explores why today's U.S. economy is less vulnerable to energy price increases, compared to its performance during previous "oil shock" episodes in the 1970s and 1980s. The paper's first section focuses on how higher energy prices might affect production - or the supply side of the economy. The second section looks at the expected effects of higher petroleum and natural gas prices on consumer spending - including consumers' automobile purchases. The third section reviews how economic models forecast the effect of high oil prices on economic growth, and why those attempting to make use of the forecasts need to be wary. The fourth section discusses the effect of the 2005 hurricanes on energy prices. The underlying causes of the high oil prices are analyzed in the final section.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE--EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES

Source: European Commission

United States Barriers to Trade and Investment: Report for 2005

http://trade-info.cec.eu.int/doclib/docs/2006/march/tradoc_127632.pdf

From [press release](#): "The European Commission today released its twenty-first annual report on barriers to trade and investment in the US, detailing the obstacles that EU exporters and investors face in the US market. The report highlights non-tariff barriers in investment and public procurement and addresses some long-running WTO

problems such as issues concerning the US Jobs Act (Foreign Sales Corporation: FSC) and the repeal of the Byrd Amendment. The report comes out on the day the EU and US are lifting telecoms procurement sanctions against each other, bringing to an end a more than a decade-long dispute. The Transatlantic Economic Initiative is also offering new possibilities to advance trade, and tackle the regulatory and non-tariff barriers identified in this report."

INTERNET USAGE--STATISTICS

Clickz, Nielsen//NetRatings

<http://www.clickz.com/stats/sectors/geographics/article.php/3581151>

The Internet audience increased at a rate of less than one percent in December, with growth in eight of the 11 countries tracked by [Nielsen//NetRatings](#). The rate of growth appears to be slowing. After experiencing a significant growth of 6.82 percent in November, Brazil Internet users dropped off -2.57 percent in December. The South American country has an active home user Internet population of 12.5 million users. Spain was the highest-gaining active Internet user population with a 3.46 percent increase.

OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK QUARTERLY (SPRING 2006)

Bureau of Labor Statistics

<http://www.bls.gov/opub/ooq/ooqhome.htm>

OOQ provides practical information on jobs and careers. Articles are written in straightforward, non-technical language and cover a wide variety of career and work-related topics such as new and emerging occupations, training opportunities, salary trends, and results of new studies from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

POVERTY REDUCTION AND GROWTH: VIRTUOUS AND VICIOUS CIRCLES

Guillermo E. Perry, et al

World Bank, Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Web-posted February 2006

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTLACOFFICEOFCE/Resources/870892-1139877599088/virtuous_circles1_complete.pdf

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

The annual flagship report by the World Bank's Latin American and Caribbean Studies division takes a fresh look at how growth and poverty are interlinked, and makes new recommendations on how to boost growth and reduce poverty at the same time. The report revisits how growth can reduce poverty and how much emphasis should be placed on growth relative to distribution, given a country's income and inequality levels.

THE DOHA ROUND AFTER HONG KONG

Gary Clyde Hufbauer and Jeffrey J. Schott

Institute for International Economics (IIE). February 2006

<http://www.iie.com/publications/pb/pb06-2.pdf>

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

The IIE Senior Fellows assess the outcome of the December 2005 World Trade Organization ministerial meeting in Hong Kong. They contend that the ministers accomplished only the minimum necessary to keep the Doha Round moving forward -- toward an undetermined and probably distant conclusion. In their view, the meeting achieved more in spirit than in substance, and placed more emphasis on the negotiating process than on policy reform. Moreover, much of the 40-plus-page ministerial declaration confirms policies already being pursued by the major trading nations.

WOMEN IN THE LABOR FORCE IN 2005

Bureau of Labor Statistics

<http://www.dol.gov/wb/factsheets/Qf-laborforce-05.htm>

The largest percentage of employed women (38%) worked in management, professional, and related occupations; 35% worked in sales and office occupations; 20% in service occupations; 6% in production, transportation, and material moving occupations; and 1% in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.

EDUCATION

AMERICA'S MOST CONNECTED CAMPUSES

Forbes

<http://www.forbes.com/connected>

Today's students depend on technology to live, work and play. And today's colleges have to provide high-tech tools in order to attract the best applicants. This third annual edition of The Princeton Review's Most Connected Campuses examines the technological capabilities of the country's best schools and tells you which 25 campuses are the closest to the cutting edge.

BUSINESS SCHOOLS--LISTS AND RANKINGS

Financial Times

2006 Global MBA Rankings

<http://news.ft.com/businesslife/mba>

Whether you are looking for a full-time MBA or a two-week course to improve your management skills, the Financial Times rankings list the best management programmes available. The tables are available in interactive and pdf formats.

HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

Civic Enterprises / Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (Commissioned)

The Silent Epidemic

<http://www.civicerprises.net/pdfs/thesilentepidemic3-06.pdf>

Most students who dropped out of high school say they could have succeeded with more challenging coursework, engaging classroom experiences, and access to extra help, according to a report released today by Civic Enterprises. In a survey of nearly 470 dropouts throughout the country, nearly 50 percent said they left school because their classes were boring and not relevant to their lives or career aspirations. A majority said schools did not motivate them to work hard, and more than half dropped out with just two years or less to complete their high school education. [Summary](#) || [Direct to Full Text](#)

SCHOOL CRIME--UNITED STATES

Bureau of Justice Statistics

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/iscs05.htm>

Presents data on crime and safety at school from the perspectives of students, teachers, principals, and the general population. A joint effort by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Center for Education Statistics, this annual report examines crime occurring in school as well as on the way to and from school. It also provides the most current detailed statistical information on the nature of crime in schools, school environments, and responses to violence and crime at school

ENVIRONMENT

AGENDA FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Pew Center on Global Climate Change. February 2006

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/PCC%5FAgenda%5F2%2E08%2Epdf>

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

In its report, the Pew Center develops and articulates a course of action for addressing climate change - which it terms "one of the most complex issues that the world will face in this century." It takes a comprehensive look at a suite of climate, energy, and technology policies that could provide meaningful reductions in greenhouse gas emissions throughout the economy.

CLIMATE--STATISTICS

NOAA

<http://www.noaaneews.noaa.gov/stories2006/s2568.htm>

Scientists at the [NOAA National Climatic Data Center](#) in Asheville, N.C., say that the [2005 global temperature](#) was statistically indistinguishable from the standing record set in 1998. Using two global data sets developed at NCDC, scientists determined that the 2005 average temperature was part of a string of very warm years—nine of the 10 warmest years on record have occurred since 1995.

GLOBAL ISSUES

None

HIV/AIDS

ACTION TODAY, A FOUNDATION FOR TOMORROW: THE PRESIDENT'S EMERGENCY PLAN FOR AIDS RELIEF

U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator

U.S. Department of State. February 2006

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/60598.pdf>

Required by the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003, this annual report to the U.S. Congress on the President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) describes programs and results achieved for fiscal year 2005. According to the report, the United States committed approximately \$2.8 billion to the Emergency Plan in FY 2005, up from \$2.4 billion in FY 2004 -- the first year of implementation. By its assessment, the \$3.2 billion for FY 2006 requested by President Bush and appropriated by Congress, keeps the Emergency Plan on track to meet the President's five year, \$15 billion commitment.

HEALTH STATISTICS

Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF)

<http://www.globalhealthfacts.org/>

GlobalHealthFacts.org, a project of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, provides free, up-to-date and easy-to-access data by country on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and other key health and socio-economic indicators. The data are displayed in tables, charts, and color-coded maps and can be downloaded for custom analyses. GlobalHealthFacts.org is a companion site to [GlobalHealthReporting.org](http://www.globalhealthreporting.org), a project operated by the Foundation with major support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. If nothing else, you have to love this site for its ultra-clean, user-friendly interface. Choose a country from the dropdown menu in the Data by Country box at the upper right and get statistics about people with AIDS, TB, malaria, and other related information in easy-to-read chart form. You can view "Notes and Sources" about any statistic by clicking a small link under the box containing that statistic, at the lower right. To compare a given statistic against data from all countries, simply click the small "Compare" icon at the upper right. Beneath the dropdown menu are links that will take you to regional data for [HIV/AIDS](#), [Malaria](#), or [TB](#).

HIV/AIDS--DIAGNOSES

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Diagnoses of HIV/AIDS --- 33 States, 2001--2004

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5505a1.htm?s_cid=mm5505a1_x

Of the estimated 157,252 diagnoses of HIV infection, the number of cases and diagnosis rates among blacks were higher than those for all other racial/ethnic populations combined. Among males, blacks had the largest or second-largest percentage of cases in every transmission category; among females, blacks had the largest percentage of cases in all transmission categories. Moreover, among both males and females, blacks represented the largest percentage of HIV/AIDS diagnoses in every age group. New and improved prevention strategies, including expanded HIV testing, targeted communications, and tailored prevention services, are needed to help address disparities in HIV transmission among blacks.

HIV/AIDS--FOREIGN POLICY

U.S. Department of State

Action Today, A Foundation for Tomorrow: The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief: Second Annual Report to Congress

<http://www.state.gov/s/gac/>

From [press briefing](#): "...the fight against this pandemic, if it is to be effective and sustainable, must truly be led by the people and the governments of our host nations. That partnership involves not just meeting the needs of the people we seek to help, but working with them to grow their capacity for the future. [Highlights](#) ||| [Full Report](#)

LAW ENFORCEMENT / SECURITY / ILLEGAL DRUGS

CRIMINAL RECORDS--MANAGEMENT

Bureau of Justice Statistics

Survey of State Criminal History Information Systems, 2003

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/sschis03.htm>

Describes the status of State criminal history records systems at yearend 2003. The data presented are used as the basis for estimating the percentage of total State records that are immediately available through the FBI's Interstate Identification Index and the percentage that include dispositions. Other data presented include the number of records maintained by each State, the percentage of automated records in the system, and the number of States participating in the FBI's Interstate Identification Index.

ILLEGAL DRUGS

U.S. Department of Justice

National Drug Threat Assessment 2006

<http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs11/18862/index.htm>

This assessment addresses the status and outlook of the drug threat to the United States. It covers the trafficking and abuse patterns of cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana, heroin, MDMA, pharmaceutical drugs, and other dangerous drugs.

WHITE COLLAR CRIME

National White Collar Crime Center

2005 National Public Survey on White Collar Crime

http://www.nw3c.org/research/national_public_survey.cfm

Despite the evidence of the widespread nature of white collar crime, there remain few empirical studies devoted to assessing the prevalence of white collar crime as it relates to the general public. In response to this, NW3C conducted the 2005 National Public Survey on White Collar Crime (a follow-up to NW3C's original National Public Survey on White Collar Crime conducted in 1999). By utilizing household and individual measures, this nationally-representative survey highlights the public's recent experiences with white collar crime including victimization, reporting behaviors, and perceptions of crime seriousness. [Full Survey](#)

